Major Milestones for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation

1970:
Theory and Practice of Mental Health Consultation

Gerald Kaplan publishes The Theory and Practice of Mental Health Consultation. Underlying concept: More children need help and there aren't enough mental health professionals available in the field. Need to establish an indirect approach building capacity of adults and caregivers.

2005:
ECMHC Training Guide

Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development (GUCCHD) publishes revised edition of A Training Guide for the Early Childhood Services Community, a Training Guide for early childhood programs.

2007:
ECMHC Evaluation Toolkit

GUCCHD publishes Evaluation Toolkit to increase the capacity for high-quality ECMHC in community based settings.

2008:
Project LAUNCH

SAMHSA funds Project LAUNCH (Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's Health) which includes ECMHC as one of five required programs or strands; led to Home Visiting ECMHC. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and Administration for Children and Families (ACF) launched the Maternal Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting at the federal level.

2008:
Center for ECMHC Funded

CECMHC funded as an innovation and improvement project by the Office of Head Start.

2014:
ECMHC Policy Paper Released

Expert Convening on Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation sponsored by SAMHSA leads to policy paper and the addition of "Infant" to ECMHC.

2015:
Center of Excellence

SAMHSA establishes Center of Excellence for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation led by EDC partnering with Georgetown with support from ACF and HRSA.

1970 — 2000 — 2005 — 2007 — 2008 — 2009 — 2010 — 2014 — 2015

2000:
First ECMHC Monograph Published

Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (ECMHC), Promotion of Mental Health and Prevention of Mental and Behavioral Disorders published; provided description of ECMHC for early childhood; funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

2005:
Preschool Expulsion Study

Walter Gilliam of Yale University publishes study on Pre-K expulsion rates which gave impetus to further expand ECMHC services.

2008:
Research Synthesis Addressing Staff and Program Outcomes

Review of 26 studies; evidence found that ECMHC helped increase staff self-efficacy/ confidence and competence, improved overall quality of settings, and was linked to reduction of staff turn over.

2009:
What Works Study

First nation-wide study of quality ECMHC; data-driven guidance around development and implementation of effective ECMHC; later cited in ACF Policy on Pre-K expulsion (2015).

2010:
Research Synthesis Addressing Child-Level Outcomes

Synthesis reviewed 14 studies on child-level outcomes. ECMHC services were consistently associated with improvement of prosocial behaviors and reductions externalizing behaviors.

2014:
Joint Policy Statement on Preventing Expulsion and Suspension in Early Childhood Settings

Joint statement created by the US Departments of Health and Human Services and Education to support families, early childhood programs, and States prevent severely limiting expulsion and suspension practices.